



United States
Department of
Agriculture

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Food and
Nutrition
Service

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SUBJECT: SFMNP Policy Memo 2010-4
Update on the Continuing Delay of Publication of DHHS Poverty
Guidelines

TO: Regional Directors
Supplemental Food Programs
All Regions

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update on the status of eligibility determinations for the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) in light of the continued delay in the publication of the updated poverty guidelines issued by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

This delay may impact the ability of SFMNP State agencies to make income eligibility determinations after June 30, 2010, when the current Income Eligibility Guidelines (IEGs) usually expire. In making eligibility determinations, SFMNP State agencies should utilize the current 2009-2010 IEG's to make such determinations until further notice. Such determinations shall be effective for the certification period set forth in the applicable SFMNP regulations (i.e., the current fiscal year's period of SFMNP operation).

A question has also been raised about what must be printed on materials for the SFMNP. Because of the delayed release of the DHHS poverty guidelines, and to prevent disruption of the SFMNP benefits, State agencies have the option to forgo, *for this year only*, printing the IEGs by family size on any printed materials related to the SFMNP.

Further questions about the SFMNP IEGs should be directed to the appropriate FNS Regional Office.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Debra R. Whitford". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

DEBRA R. WHITFORD
Director
Supplemental Food Programs Division